

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

On page 5 kindly amend the brief description of the figures as follows --

Fig. 1 shows a perspective view of a cervical vertebra plate with inserted bone screws;

Fig. 2 shows an enlarged illustration of a corner area of the cervical vertebra plate showing a receiving opening; and

~~Fig. 3 shows a perspective view of a first bone screw; and~~

~~Fig. 4~~ Fig. 3 shows a perspective view of a ~~second~~ bone screw. --.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 6 extending to page 7 as well as the first full paragraph of page 7 as follows --

~~Fig. 3 shows a first embodiment of a bone screw 18 which is provided with a truncated conical screw head 16. The outer periphery 32 of the screw head 16 has a fluting 34 whose depth (radial dimension) increases in a distal direction. The fluting 34 is formed by grooves 36 of spherical segment shape having a mutual separation bordering areas 38 without grooves. These areas 38 without grooves have supporting or abutment surfaces whose width increases in a proximal direction.~~

~~Fig. 4~~ Fig. 3 shows an embodiment of a bone screw 18 having a spherical screw head 16. The outer periphery 32 of the screw head 16 is also provided with a fluting 34 which is formed by the spherical segment-shaped grooves 36. The depth of each groove 36 thereby increases from the proximal end of the screw head 16 towards the distal end and decreases again from the equator (maximum diameter of the screw head

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16). An area 38 without grooves is also provided between the individual grooves 36, whose width increases from the equator in the direction towards the proximal and distal ends. --.

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